

**AMENDMENTS****In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 9 with the following:

--Turning now to Fig. 2 there is illustrated a part of the process of the invention.

Fig 10p  
The laser beam 10 is scanned along the die surface 13A, so as to melt or "puddle" an area 17 in the surface 13A, along a path corresponding to the desired die blade pattern. Upon such melting or puddling, the powder 16A is fed into the area being clad by the laser so that in one pass along the surface 13A, as illustrated in Fig. <sup>3</sup>~~18~~, a die blade of half ellipse cross-sectional dimension is formed. To state another way, powder 16A is fed into the path while heating the path with the laser beam 10. The material of the die body 13 is selected to conform to the desired parameters in the die body for toughness. Ordinary, medium carbon plain steels or medium carbon low alloy steels such as 1045 or 4150 steel, for example, may be used.--

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claim ~~28~~.

Please amend claims ~~1-4, 17-18, 20-22~~ and ~~24~~ as follows:

Fig  
1. (Twice Amended) A method of forming a cutting die including a die body and an integral blade extending outwardly from a surface of said die body, the method comprising the steps of:

cladding a blade material onto an area of said die body surface by heating said area with a laser, introducing said blade material into the heated area while heating said area, and building a blade of said blade material outwardly from said surface, wherein said blade material